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Circuit Productions, Inc. and Park Slope community partners present *World Beat: A Study of Diverse Cultures in NYC through Dance and Music*

- Citations awarded by Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz to four Park Slope partners for the community collaboration of "***World Beat***"
- Next two programs at Camp Friendship are on April 22nd featuring poet, Gary Glazner; and June 14th featuring African dance and drumming

Brooklyn, New York, April, 2010 –Circuit Productions, Inc. - along with three other Park Slope community partners – the Brooklyn Public Library, PS 39K, and the Park Slope Senior Citizens Center - will receive Citations from the Brooklyn Borough President, Marty Markowitz at the **June 14, 2010** performances of "*World Beat: A Study in Diverse Cultures in NYC through Dance and Music*". The two 45-minute performances will take place at Camp Friendship **Auditorium** located at 339 8th St. Brooklyn, 11215, **Entrance** closer to 6th Ave. Presentation of awards at 10:15 am. **Special Note:** For parents, seniors and all other guests in and outside of council district #39 please call 718.638.4878 to confirm your attendance.

The performance is the last in a yearlong series of intergenerational programs. The "*World Beat*" series resulting from an alliance forged among the Brooklyn Public Library (BPL), P.S. 39K/The Landmark School, the PSSCC and Circuit Productions, Inc. (CPI) brings four thematic presentations of interactive music and dance to audiences comprising all grades of the elementary school AND participants from PSSCC, simultaneously. "We are thrilled to advocate for and present such a diverse group of artists," said **Susan Goldbetter**, Executive Director of Circuit Productions, "who bring their contemporary and world music to new communities."

The "*World Beat*" initiative was launched in September 2009. Each program component provides skill-based learning opportunities, enriches the lives of youth and seniors, and celebrates the diversity that is so central to Brooklyn culture. The first two programs, designed to coincide with Latin Heritage month (October) and the holiday season (an International Stories presentation for December), have already taken place. The next presentation, a poetry celebration, is scheduled for National Poetry Month (specifically, April 22nd). The final performance - scheduled for June 14th - *African Dance and Percussion* - features dancer, Jerbean Gilkes and percussionist, Sanga of the Valley from the Charles Moore Dance Theatre.

About Circuit Productions, Inc.

Circuit Productions, Inc. was founded by **Susan Goldbetter** in 1986 as a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion, production and preservation of the uniquely American art forms of jazz and tap dance. Our mission is to inspire, entertain and educate underserved audiences in New York through performances, public classes, workshops, and arts education programs featuring senior artists of color who are living legends of the city's rich tap and jazz history. Annually, Circuit provides booking and management services for senior and emerging artists; placing performers in museums, public libraries, community-based organizations, local colleges, public schools, hospitals and nursing homes. Since 1990 Circuit has been providing arts education programs in public schools throughout the five boroughs.

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About Brooklyn Public Library (Youth & Family Programs)

It is the mission of Brooklyn Public Library to ensure the preservation and transmission of society's knowledge, history and culture, and to provide the people of Brooklyn with free and open access to information for education, recreation and reference. As an independent system, separate from the New York City and Queens libraries, Brooklyn Public Library serves the borough's 2.5 million residents, offering thousands of public programs, millions of books and use of more than 850 free Internet-accessible computers. **Paquita Campoverde**, the Manager of Youth and Family Programs and the office of **Programs and Exhibitions** works year-round on partnerships with schools, senior centers, and cultural organizations.

About PS 39/The Landmark School

PS 39's mission is to create a school that cultivates a climate of continuous growth for all members of its community. Through reflective and responsive practice we set and clearly communicate high expectations for ourselves and our students and effectively plan to help every child achieve success. We teach and learn with passion and compassion collaboratively creating a fully participatory learning environment that encourages conversation and exploration and celebrates the gifts and talents of each individual.

Although at 133 years old P.S. 39 is one of the oldest elementary schools in the city of New York, we offer students a progressive and comprehensive educational experience. We utilize innovative teaching methodologies and curriculum such as workshop model instruction, balanced literacy, constructivist math, inquiry based social studies and science instruction and the School Wide Enrichment Model as a means to provide effective and responsive instruction to meet the needs of all students. We have long established arts partnerships with numerous organizations in order to provide students with a varied and enriching learning experience. Under the leadership of our **Principal, Anita de Paz**, and her dedicated staff, their combined efforts are reflected in the school's academic excellence. This year we were designated a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the U.S. department of Education, an honor awarded to only a total of 271 schools out of 132,533 national elementary, middle and high schools (both public and private).

About Park Slope Senior Citizens Center

Park Slope Senior Citizens Center has been servicing senior citizens sixty years of age for more than thirty-five years. The center is funded by the Department for the Aging, and is located at 463a 7th Street, Brooklyn, NY in Park Slope. Park Slope Senior Center provides comprehensive support programs for the elderly including recreational and cultural services, daily lunch, case assistance, nutritional education, Ed. and Rec. Programs, and telephone reassurance. The Park Slope Senior Center also provides assistance to seniors with issues of entitlements and benefits. The center is proud of it's history of community participation and involvement with organizations such as Circuit Productions, PS39, BPL, FAC, Title, City as High school, The FAN Program, Brooklyn Conservatory, local politicians, and the 76th and the 78th precincts. **Executive Director, Denise Johnson** and **Assistant Director, Elena Spurrell** run the Center. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm.

About the Performers

Jerbean Gilkes-Worrell: former member of the Barbados Dance Theatre Company and the Gallman's Neward Dance Co. He worked with the Carribean Dance Co. in St Croix U.S. V.I. after coming to New York. He has taught for Mindbuilders Creative Arts Center, Leaps and Bounds and presently teaches in NYC public schools and colleges. He has been a member of the Charles Moore Dance Theatre since 1986 and has worked with Phylicia Rashad, Cissy Houston, Esther Rolle and the late Pepsi Bethel and the late Gregory Hines.

Sanga of the Valley: is a Trinidadian master percussionist who has studied with some of the world's greatest drummers from Aftica, the Caribbean, Brazil and the USA. He has performed world-wide with Baba Olatunji, Carlos Santana, the Grateful Dead and Gabriella Roth.

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